IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, please amend the 2nd full paragraph as follows:

A conventional ball screw apparatus of this type is structured such that, with a screw shaft including a screw groove in its outer peripheral surface and extending in the axial direction of the ball screw apparatus, there is fitted a nut including in its inner peripheral surface a screw groove corresponding to the screw groove of the screw shaft, while the screw groove of the nut and the screw groove of the screw shaft are ~~disposed~~ opposed to each other and cooperate together in forming a spiral-shaped loaded raceway. In the loaded raceway, there are disposed a large number of balls serving as rolling bodies in such a manner that they are able to roll along the loaded raceway; and, ~~in case where~~ when the screw shaft (or, nut) is rotated, the nut (or, screw shaft) is allowed to move in the axial direction through the rolling movements of the balls.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 as follows:

~~By the way, when~~ When the nut (or, the screw shaft) moves in the axial direction, the balls move while they are rolling along the spiral-shaped loaded raceway formed by the two screw grooves; and, in order to allow the nut (or, the screw shaft) to move continuously, it is necessary to make the balls circulate endlessly.

On page 2, please amend the 1st full paragraph as follows:

~~As a type for~~ For making the balls circulate endlessly, generally, there are known various types of apparatuses, for example, a circulation tube type, an end cap type and the like. In the case of the circulation tube type, for example, part of the outer peripheral surface of the nut is formed as a flat surface; in this flat surface, there are formed a pair of circulation holes communicating with the above-mentioned two screw grooves in such a manner that they step over the screw shaft; the two end portions of a substantially U-shaped circulation tube are respectively fitted into the pair of circulation holes; and thus, the balls revolving along the loaded raceway between the two screw grooves are scooped up from the intermediate portion of the loaded raceway by the circulation tube and are returned back to its original loaded raceway, thereby forming a circulation circuit for the balls.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 2 and 3 as follows:

~~Also, in the case of~~ In the end cap type, in a nut, there is formed a ball circulation hole which penetrates through the nut in the axial direction thereof; between an end cap fixed to the axial-direction two end faces of the nut and the end face of the nut, there is formed a ball circulation R portion which allows the ball circulation hole and the above-mentioned two screw grooves to communicate with each other; and, the ball circulation R portion, the ball circulation hole and the loaded raceway formed between the two screw grooves cooperate together in forming a ball circulation circuit in which the balls revolving along the loaded raceway are allowed to circulate endlessly.

On page 3, please amend the 1st full paragraph as follows:

~~By the way, for a~~ There are at least three types of ball screw apparatus of the above-mentioned circulation tube type ~~, there~~ that are practically used. In a first type, ~~a structure in which~~ the above-mentioned two screw grooves are composed of multiple thread screws and a circulation tube is disposed for each of the multiple threads. In a second type, ~~a structure in which~~ there are formed a plurality of ball circulation circuits in a nut. In a third type, ~~a structure in which~~ a plurality of nuts are connected together in the axial direction thereof ~~, and the like~~.

On page 3, please amend the 2nd full paragraph as follows:

However, in the above ball screw apparatus of a circulation tube type, since the direction to scooping the balls is at right angles ~~to~~ the axial direction of the screw shaft, when the balls ~~advancing~~ advance in the lead direction along the loaded raceway are moved into the scooping portion of the circulation tube, the advancing direction of the balls is changed suddenly. As a result of this, the balls circulate while they are colliding with the scooping portion of the circulation tube, thereby generating vibrations and noises.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 as follows:

~~On the other hand, in~~ In a ball screw apparatus of the above end cap type, by inclining the ball scooping direction by the ball circulation R portion of the end cap in the direction of the lead angle of the two screw grooves, the balls can be prevented from colliding with the scooping portion of the end cap; and also, ~~even in case where~~ when the two screw grooves are respectively composed of multiple thread screws, the ball screw apparatus of the end cap type can also apply. However, a plurality of ball circulation circuits cannot be arranged in parallel to each other in a nut; and, ~~in case where~~ when the load capacity is increased, the number of balls (the number of windings) must be increased, which raises a possibility the operation efficiency of the ball screw apparatus can be ~~ill~~ negatively influenced.

Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 as follows:

According to the invention as set forth in a second aspect, there is ~~provides~~ provided a ball screw apparatus having: a screw shaft including a spiral-shaped screw groove formed in an outer peripheral surface thereof; a nut movably fitted with the screw shaft and including a screw groove formed in an inner peripheral surface thereof so as to correspond to the screw groove of the screw shaft; a large number of balls rollably disposed in a loaded raceway formed between the two screw grooves; and, a side cap mounted on the outer peripheral portion of the nut and including a ball circulation passage for scooping up the balls rolling along the loaded raceway in a direction coincident with the lead angle of the two screw grooves and returning the balls to the loaded raceway, wherein the nut includes a plurality of ball circulation circuits each formed by the loaded raceway and the ball circulation passage.

On page 7, please amend the 1st full paragraph as follows:

According to the invention as set forth in a sixth aspect, a ball screw apparatus as set forth in any one of the second to fifth ~~aspect~~ aspects, wherein a plurality of circulation holes are formed in the outer peripheral portion of the nut in communication with the loaded raceway in order to fit the side cap into the nut, and the plurality of circulation holes are disposed so as to be prevented from ~~interfere~~ interfering with each other.